

2026  
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# GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society (TPG)

AMA Charter Club 129

Website: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org)

Editor – Dale Gottdank

## Message from the President

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Chuck Norris

Hi everyone!

2026 is now upon us, and I see we have a great year in front of us! There are so many things to do, and I'm looking forward to seeing how things develop. Just in January, we have five events on the calendar, including DLG, Gliderport, F5J (both fun fly and F5J Tour). Then in February, TowHooks, more DLG, Torrey, and one of my favorites, Slope Combat!

I very much enjoy the others, but I want to bring your attention especially to Slope Combat! If you've never experienced the thrill of deliberately trying to crash into each other, you've really missed out on some fun. If you've never tried it, come on out and try your luck doing the thing we try hard to avoid in every other RC soaring discipline - utter carnage! We'll have loaner planes to try out, and if you find you're hooked (I hope you do), combat planes are pretty inexpensive and virtually indestructible. You'll also find other pilots happy to hand you their radios to give it a try. Come on out and give this very special brand of fun a try!

Happy New Year!

Chuck

### Photo above:

TPG Members gathered for an exciting session of slope combat at the Poway Slope (Bob Hirsch photo)

## TPG January/February Events

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS
January 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2025 Kickoff Event –Bring what you Have!	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Tow Hook Series Contest F3L/F3RES – 2m & 1.5m	Encinitas Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
January 17 <sup>th</sup>	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	F5J Foamy Fun Fly & Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
January 31 <sup>st</sup> – February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	F5J Tour – 2-day F5J Contest	Perris Free Flight/Glider Field Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
February 7 <sup>th</sup>	Fly 'n Swap – A Day to fly and swap meet. Clean out your garages and make room for more birds	Torrey Pines Gliderport No Contest Registration Required Fun Fly!
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Tow Hook Series Contest F3L/F3RES – 2m & 1.5m	Encinitas Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
February 21 <sup>st</sup>	DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Team DLG Contest	Poway Flight Center Register on <a href="#">F3X Vault</a>
February 24 <sup>th</sup>	Club Virtual Meeting	Zoom link: <a href="#">TPG Virtual Meeting Zoom Link</a>
February 28 <sup>th</sup>	TPG Slope Combat Fiesta	Poway Slope Register on <b>F3X Vault</b> when open



Gary Fogel's and Larry Jolly's AMA Hall of Fame induction, from L to R, David Hall, Chuck Norris (TPG President), Greg Stone (AMA District X VP and new AMA President-elect), Gary Fogel, Larry Jolly and John McNeil (Bob Hirsch photo)

## Newsletter This Month - Dale Gottdank, Editor



Dale Gottdank

Please contribute to our **GULL WINGS NEWSLETTER**

**Send pictures, or maybe even an article!** It could be just a paragraph with some photos from a great soaring day ...even something interesting you've seen on the internet. I'd like to have the newsletter published by the first week of every month. If there's a project you're working on, don't just post it on RCGroups...share it with your club!

**January Issue highlights include:**

- **News from the Slope including full 2026 Gliderport schedule (page 5)**
- **Membership Update – RENEW NOW! (page 7)**
- **Photo of the Month Contest and Photo of the Year (page 22)**

Please send in your articles or photos ([communications@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org)) by the **25<sup>th</sup>** of each month so they can be included in the monthly newsletter. If there are too many, we'll save them for the next issue. Photos should be in their original, high-resolution format. The newsletter can be found on the Torrey Pines Gulls website at <http://www.torreypinesgulls.org>.



Ray Pili's Ahi scoring at the Redman Rules contest in November at Torrey (Jake Olefsky photo)

## Club Meetings, Contests and Activities

The Torrey Pines Gulls hosts bi-monthly club meetings virtually via Zoom. It's really easy to use Zoom, join in the fun, chat with others; and we typically have a presentation about a topic in RC soaring or something aviation related.

At our last virtual meeting, back on August 26<sup>th</sup>, we were joined by **Larry Jolly** for a review of his amazing career in aeromodelling spanning more than 50 years of excellence in free flight, control line, RC helicopters, RC electric aircraft, and RC soaring. This includes a staggering 12 times representing the USA on teams at FAI World Championships across four different disciplines and converting his passion for aeromodelling into a career using models for Hollywood. For his many accomplishments Larry has recently been inducted into the AMA Hall of Fame. Thank you, Larry!

Super Raffle tickets were won by Steve Condon and Christoph Efstathiou. Previous winners were Chuck Norris and Paul Nibecker in June, Marty Zimmerman and Justin Tolman in April, and Cliff Hunter and Ed LaCroix in February. Stay tuned for 2026 Raffle information in upcoming newsletters.

Our next club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 7:00pm Pacific Time. You can be sure we'll have a fascinating presentation and as always, a time to touch base with flying buddies and friends.

The link to the Zoom meeting will be shared with the club via discord and Google Groups prior to each meeting. It also appears on the Upcoming TPG Events list in the Newsletter.



**TORREY PINES GULLS RC SOARING CLUB**

- [www.torреypinesgulls.org](http://www.torреypinesgulls.org)
- One of the oldest clubs in the US dedicated to RC soaring
- ~100 members
- AMA membership required
- Club membership
  - Full members = \$60/yr
  - Full-time student members = \$30/yr
  - Youth members (19 years and younger) = \$5/yr
- Three club fields
  - Torrey Pines Gliderport
  - Poway Flight Center
  - Encinitas Flight Center

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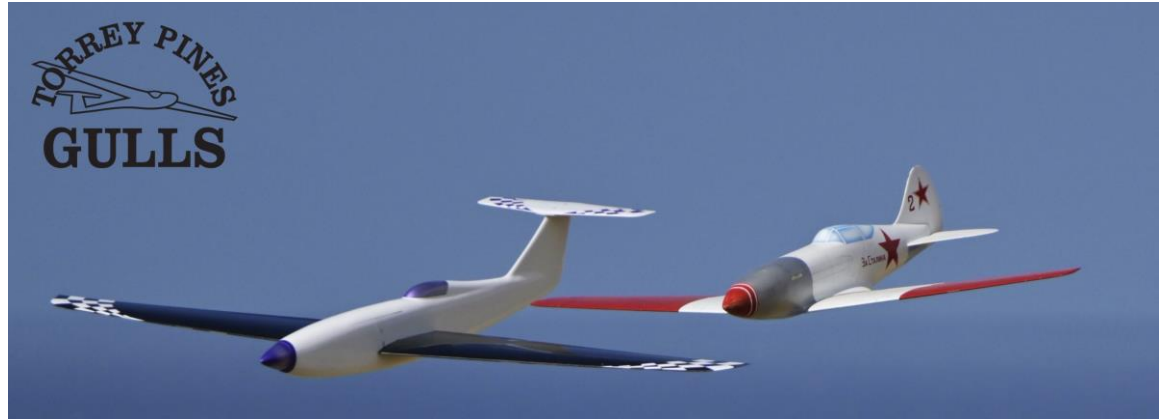
Speed

Screenshot from one of the past year's meetings

## News from the Slope – Bret Locke, Slope Coordinator



Bret Locke



### Happy New Year, Gulls!

A new year is officially open for business! With great optimism, we will be ready to take advantage of meteorological conditions with our flying machines. That being said, recent weather conditions have not been favorable, but we will not be deterred. The TPG slope areas remain in excellent condition; recent rains will bring soft grass to our landing area and westerly winds will return. The 2026 TPG Calendar has been finalized with wonderful events fast approaching.

On January 3rd, the January Kickoff will be at Torrey Pines Gliderport. The schedule is mostly weather dependent, but most of the activity will be between 12:00 and 3:00 pm.

For February 7th, the Gliderport Fly and Swap will be at Torrey Pines. This event draws many slopers from surrounding areas looking for treasures and some stick time at the cliff. The schedule is from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

February 28th, the Slope Combat Fiesta will be at the Poway slope from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. Please sign up for this event on F3X for planning purposes.

#### SAFETY ALERT:

Our most effective safety practice is the Blue-Sky Rule; your depth perception cannot be trusted; Maintain Situational Awareness; and fly with a spotter if feeling overwhelmed by your plane or by paraglider traffic. In uncomfortable situations (i.e. numerous paragliders in the R/C window), landing is always a great option. If warranted, politely ask the Gliderport flight director to help clear the RC window.

Looking into the future, my prediction is “Good Times” at the slopes for 2026.

Sincerely,

Bret Locke  
TPG Slope Coordinator

## News from the Slope (continued)



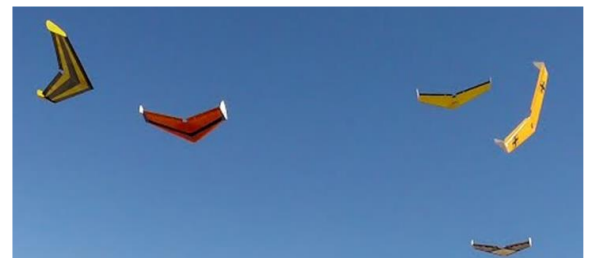
Flying near Black Mountain paraglider field (Kevin Vu photo)

### TPG Gliderport Schedule for 2026

January 4 <sup>th</sup>	2026 Kickoff Event – Bring what you have
Jan. 29 <sup>th</sup> – Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Gliderport closed due to golf tournament
February 7 <sup>th</sup>	Fly 'n Swap – A Day to fly and swap meet. Clean out your garages and make room for more birds
March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Scale Planes – Both TPG and TPSSS Fun Fly Day
April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Old School Vintage Classic Woodies – Balsa BOTs, Olys, Sagittas – whatever is built-up wood
May 9 <sup>th</sup>	Foamies – Ahis, Alulas, Radians – if it's foam, this is your day. And, students from AIAA UCSD and SDSU will learn to fly on members' buddy boxes.
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Katie Martin International Tribute. A day to remember and celebrate Bob's amazing wife Katie. Lots of Hobie Hawks (Katie's favorite) aloft. All RC soaring aircraft welcome, but be sure to bring out your classic Bob Martin planes too!
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Aerobatics Day – TWF/PNF – Jesters, Ahis, Shrikes; whatever turns on a dime
August 8 <sup>th</sup>	Fly 'n Swap Again! – A day to fly and swap meet. Clean out your garages and make room for more birds
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Old School Vintage Classic Woodies Again! – Balsa BOTs, Olys, Sagittas – whatever is built-up wood
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	UCSD/TPG Buddy Box & Skilled Pilots Mentorship Day
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Redman Rules Contest – Ribbons for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> . For the uninitiated, Redman Rules involve beer can bowling and limbo line.
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	No Shopping Saturday – A week or so after Thanksgiving to get out of the house

**Also, keep an eye out for details on our next Poway Slope Combat session.**

**The first event of 2026 is scheduled for February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026**



## Club Membership Update – Cliff Hunter



Cliff Hunter

Hello Gulls,

**TPG is ending calendar year with 117 members, 25 of whom are new club members. So far, for 2026, we have over 50 renewals and 6 new club members. For those who have not renewed, go the new and improved web site at [torreypinesgulls.org](http://torreypinesgulls.org). and renew your membership. Gate keys for Poway and Encinitas will be changed February 1, 2026.**

**Renew or become a Torrey Pines Gulls member.** If you know someone who may be interested in RC soaring, please invite them to some of our events and encourage them to sign up and become a member.

### **Renewing or new members must fill out the registration on our web site.**

Please use the link below when joining as a new member or renewing an existing membership. Fill out the registration form completely and pay using PayPal, credit card or check. If you have not signed up for the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an individual email when becoming a member.

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/membership.html>

### **Membership Activity Summary as of November 17, 2025**

The table below is a summary of lifetime members, new and renewed full members, and youth members; based on completed registration forms received to date.

<b>Date: November 15, 2025</b>	<b>Added Since Last Report</b>
New TPG Members	0
Youth Members	0
TPG Renewals and New Members to Date for 2025	117

### **Membership Processing**

Please use the link below when joining as a new member or renewing an existing membership. Fill out the registration form completely and pay using PayPal, credit card or check. Current members will receive a renewal notice using the TPG Google Group email process. If you have not signed up for the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an individual email.

<http://www.torreypinesgulls.org/membership.html>

All new and renewing members will receive a membership card and key (if requested, for Encinitas and Poway). The key provides access to the gates at our Encinitas and Poway flying sites. Members who fly at the Torrey Pines Gliderport and are Gliderport rated will receive a club lanyard from a club representative at the Gliderport. Members must wear the lanyard with the membership card attached when flying at the Gliderport, for safety reasons. Remember, you must have a current AMA membership to join TPG. To join AMA, follow this link:

<https://join.modelaircraft.org/torreypinesgulls/>

Please contact me at: [membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org) if you have not received your membership materials or have any membership-related questions.

## Club Membership Update (continued)

### Annual Membership

TPG's membership period is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Renewals begin November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### Club Dues are as follows:

- **Full Members** – \$60 per year
- **Youth Members** (19 years or younger) – \$5 per year
- **Student Members** (full-time) – \$20 per year
- **Work Credit** You will receive a credit of up to \$20 on your annual dues; \$10 per each half-day working at any TPG flying field. When filling out your registration form, there is a place to input your hours/credit.

New members joining in the first six months of the year pay the full rate. Those joining in July through September pay half the applicable rate. If you are a new member joining in October through December, you pay the full rate, but your membership is considered paid through the end of the following year.

You can get more detailed information regarding your yearly membership benefits by using the following link: [Torrey Pines Gulls Membership Guide](#), which will provide answers to many of your questions regarding Torrey Pines Gulls activities. Also review the TPG Club Bylaws for more information at: [Club Bylaws](#)

### Cliff Hunter

Membership Chairman

[membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org)

760-703-4497 cell



Note: TPG membership information will not be shared or sold and will only be used to contact members for purposes of TPG business.

## Where We Fly – Panoramas – Ian Cummings

Here are Ian Cummings' immersive panoramas of our world class flying sites; the world-famous Torrey Pines Gliderport, Poway Flight Center, where each year the club sponsors the IHLGF (International Hand Launch Glider Festival) and the Encinitas Flight Center. Clicking on the pictures takes you to our sites:

**Click on this photo to visit the Torrey Pines Gliderport.**



**Click on this photo to visit the TPG Poway Flight Center.**



**Click on this photo to visit the TPG Encinitas Flight Center.**



## How We Compete

### F5J Contest Series

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John McNeil

#### **Thermal Coordinator – John McNeil**

Thermal Duration (winch launch) contests have been moved into the Tow Hook Series (see the following pages). For F5J contest dates, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

<https://www.torreypinesgulls.org/f5j-competition.html>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2026 TPG F5J contest schedule thread for contest news. In the meantime, check out what's been going on during 2025:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4662319-2025-TPG-F5J-contest-schedule>

or contact John McNeil at [thermal@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org)

### DLG/Hand Launch/F3K Contest Series

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Justin Tolman

#### **DLG Coordinator – Justin Tolman**

For DLG contest dates, check the calendar on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Hand Launch/DLG contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

<https://www.torreypinesgulls.org/discus-launch-glider-series.html>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2025 TPG DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for contest news. In the meantime, check out what's been going on during 2025:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4658315-2025-Torrey-Pines-Gulls-DLG-Contest-Clinic-Series>

or contact Justin Tolman at [dlg@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:dlg@torreypinesgulls.org)

## How We Compete (continued)

### Team DLG Series

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John McNeil

#### Thermal Coordinator – John McNeil

Following a successful and fun launch of this new contest format in 2024, we have expanded the team DLG schedule in 2025. Each event will be on a Sunday following a Saturday monthly DLG.

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2026 TPG Team DLG Contest/Clinic Series thread for contest news. In the meantime, check out what's been going on during 2025:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4662309-2025-TPG-Team-DLG-Series>

or contact John McNeil at [thermal@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org)

#### Team DLG format:

- Teams consist of exactly four pilots.
- In each heat, three of the pilots fly while one pilot times and provides team direction.
- Each round, the timer is rotated. After four rounds, all team members will have timed once.
- Contest rounds follow F3K formats except:
  - Flight timing
    - Flight time starts when the last of three pilots releases the model.
    - Flight time ends when the first of three pilots time would end.
    - If any pilot lands out of bounds, then the flight scores zero.
    - (In other words, all three pilots fly each flight together for a single flight time)

For full details, check out this RCGroups Forum:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4617285-New-F3K-Team-Contest-Format>

## How We Compete (continued)

### 2024 TPG Tow Hook Series - F3L/F3RES/TD/1.5m

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John McNeil

#### Thermal Coordinator – John McNeil

The TPG Tow Hook Series was a great success in 2025; more contests, fun fly clinics and even a multi-club/multi state event, The Coastal Cooler, which was held in August.

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming Tow Hook Series contests, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

<https://www.torreypinesgulls.org/f3l-res-competitions.html>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the RCGroups 2026 TPG Tow Hook Contest/Clinic Series thread for contest news. In the meantime, check out what's been going on during 2025:

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?4662329-2025-TPG-Tow-Hook-Series-F3L-F3RES-TD-1-5m#post53309761>

For more info, contact John McNeil at [thermal@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org)

#### Aircraft Classes

- 1.5m RES bungee launch. Max flying weight is 250g. Construction materials and techniques must follow F3L rules. Maximum flight time is 5 minutes.
- 2m RES bungee launch. Construction materials and techniques must follow F3L rules. Maximum flight time is 6 minutes.
- AMA thermal duration open class. Winch launch. Skegs are allowed. Maximum flight time is 10 minutes.

#### Equipment

At least three landing tapes will be provided, marked for F3L. AMA TD will use the same landing bonus formula as the other classes.

F3L compliant bungees will be provided by the club and set up at the CD's direction. At the CD's discretion, all bungees may be shortened from F3L standard to accommodate field conditions. Lighter 1.5m meter bungees will also be setup.

Winches:

A single winch will be on TD days. The winch shall be set up in parallel with, and at the same length as the stretched bungees. The winch will not have a retriever.

## How We Compete (continued)

### F5J Foamy Fun Fly and Contest/Clinic Series



Don Lochhead

TPG will continue our F5J style foamy fun fly contest (and clinic) Series in 2026 at our Poway field.

This is truly a fun-fly and a great way to get into F5J style flying. Any foamy or stick-built plane up to 2m (or so) is welcome. Night Radians are very popular but we also see Yellow Jackets (stick-built) and a variety of other vintage foamy and balsa stick-built aircraft.

We typically pause mid-contest for a quick clinic. Subjects generally focus on F5J topics of interest to pilots getting into the format. The events are free but we still ask all pilots to sign up on F3X Vault so we know how many to expect and can run the matrix ahead of time.

For information, contacts, rules, etc. for past and upcoming F5J Foamy Fun Fly and Contest/Clinic events, check the following link on the Torrey Pines Gulls website:

<https://www.torreypinesgulls.org/foamy-fun-fly.html>

Our first fun fly of the year will be held on January 24th. Sign up and come join in on the fun.

[https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event\\_view&event\\_id=4150](https://f3xvault.com/?action=event&function=event_view&event_id=4150)



Bob Hirsch photo

## League of Silent Flight and TPG – Gary Fogel



Gary Fogel

The League of Silent Flight (LSF) <https://www.silentflight.org/> is the special interest group (SIG) representing RC soaring to the Academy of Model Aeronautics. LSF has its own lengthy and important history, having first been conceived of in Northern California in 1969, and helps arrange the annual RC soaring Nationals at Muncie, Indiana each summer. Additional info on its history can be found here: <http://www.silentflight.org/images/documents/lfsstory.pdf>

Mark Smith was the first local to sign up for the LSF program with LSF #19. His father Rod was not far behind with #28. They may have been flying more with Harbor Soaring Society at that time (1969/1970) than Torrey Pines Gulls but soon were enjoying membership in both clubs. Since then over 10,000 people from around the world have signed up and received an LSF number.

Don Edberg was the first in the club to achieve LSF SAP Level III (February 2, 1974). Randy Warner was not far behind, completing the level on April 25, 1974.

Don Edberg was also first in the TPG to achieve LSF SAP Level IV (June 27, 1975). Keith Finkenbinder completed the level on July 8, 1975 but was likely living in Illinois at that time. Ben Clerx completed Level IV on September 30, 1975 but was perhaps living in Honolulu at the time. Larry Fogel was likely the second TPG member to complete Level IV with TPG on April 27, 1976.

Larry Jolly completed his SAP Level V on November 16, 1983 but may or may not have been a member of TPG at the time. TPG members Don Edberg completed his on July 8, 1989. Since then, George Joy (1992), Patrick Dionisio (2002), Keith Finkenbinder (2002), and Gary Fogel (2025) have completed Level V:

- SAP Level III – 51 pilots
- SAP Level IV – 31 pilots
- SAP Level V – 6 pilots

Larry Jolly (1983), Don Edberg (1989), George Joy (1992), Patrick Dionisio (2002), Keith Finkenbinder (2002), Gary Fogel (2025)

For LSF eSAP, only one pilot in the history of the program has completed Level V – Larry Jolly (September 2, 2015). We need more pilots signing up and completing eSAP levels especially given the popularity of F5J, our regular F5J fun flies, and the opportunity to use electric launch DLGs in our monthly F3K contests.

## League of Silent Flight and TPG – (continued)



Who in the TPG is currently working on which levels? I have the following info; if you do not see your name listed and wish to be added please let me know. It's good for us to have a list of current aspirations so that we can help others team up along the way and get to their goals. Don't forget to use 2026 TPG events towards next levels!

First	Last	SAP Level next to achieve	eSAP Level next to achieve
Milan	Bregman	Level I	
Gary	Legerton	Level I	
Mengchen	Li	Level I	
Paul	Nibecker	Level I	
Scott	McCurdy	Level I	Level II
Justin	Tolman	Level II	
Christoph	Efstathiou	Level II	
Ed	LaCroix	Level II	
Jake	Olefsky	Level II	
Eric	Metzdorf	Level II	
Cliff	Hunter	Level II	
Daniel	McFarland	Level II	
Don	Lochhead	Level II	
Ian	Cummings	Level III	
Mike	Verzuh	Level III	
Ray	Pili	Level III	Level II
Tom	Kiesling	Level III	
Chuck	Norris	Level IV	Level II
Mike	Smith	Level IV	
Steve	Condon	Level IV	
Gary	Fogel	Level V	Level III
John	McNeil	Level V	
Scott	Condon	Level V	
David	Hall	Level V	
Ben	Clerx	Level V	
Rick	Shelby	Level V	

## How We Connect

### What do **YOU** think?

**You** can express your opinion at: [www.torreypinesgulls.org](http://www.torreypinesgulls.org).

We have a **QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS** link in the drop-down menu that appears when you scroll over **TORREY PINES GULLS** next to **LOCATIONS, CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP...** If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions, etc. for the board, here's your chance.

**Don't forget to join** 

In order to maintain a line of communication among members, we have a TPG Google Group. Please make sure that our club Membership Chairman has your current email address. You can confirm this by contacting [membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org). If you are not already a member of the TPG Google Group, you will be sent an invitation to join.

When you join as a member of the private TPG Google Group, the club will distribute notifications, newsletters, contest events and holiday party info, etc. This information will keep you informed of all club activities throughout the year. You don't need a Gmail address to participate in Google Groups, but you do need to be a member of TPG.

Google Groups provides a great way of communicating with one another. If you have any questions or concerns about almost anything having to do with flying, building, finding another club member, etc., you can post them on Google Groups. It also allows you to send links and attachments, just like regular email.

...and, very importantly, since all postings/emails are done through Google Groups, your actual email address is not visible when notifications are sent out to the club members. Also, only members of the group can post to the group, so joining the group does not add to your spam burden.

So, verify that the club has your correct email, make sure you receive an invitation to join Google Groups and sign up!

### Procedure for Joining Google Groups

Here are the steps new club members need to take to be added to Google Groups if they don't have a Gmail account/address:

1. Go to the [Google Account Sign In page](#).
2. Click Create account.
3. Enter your name.
4. Click Use my current email address instead.
5. Enter your current email address.
6. Click Next.
7. Verify your email address with the code sent to your existing email.
8. Click Verify.
9. Confirm with TPG Membership (Cliff Hunter) the above steps have been completed, use the following email address: [membership@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org)

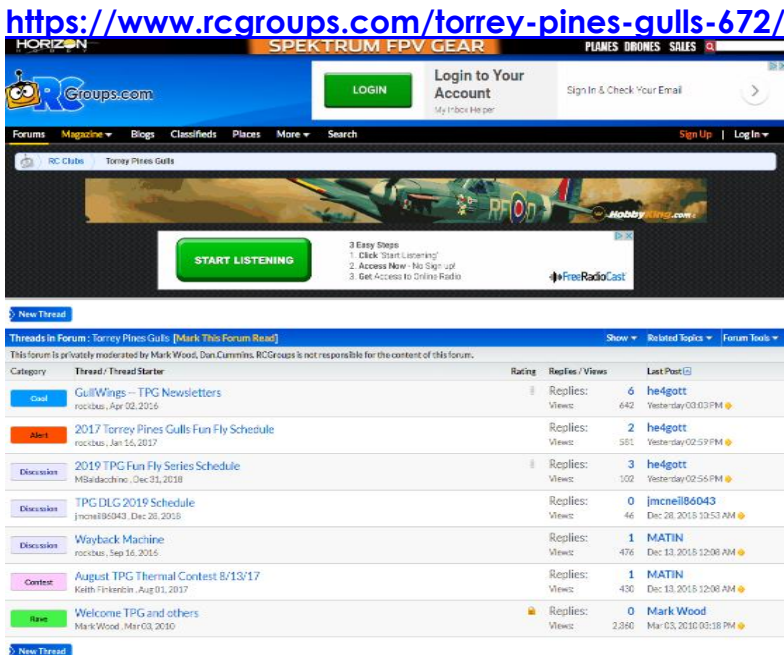
## How We Connect (continued)

# Are you a member of ?

If you're not...**you should be!** RCGroups is the most widely used and active online Radio Control Community for everything RC, from planes to cars, to boats, drones, radios, power systems...pretty much anything RC! It includes forums, specific interest threads, blogs, discussions, etc....and, more importantly, The Torrey Pines Gulls Forum.

To get started, click on the link or web page below to get to the TPG Club forum. You can also get there from the **Clubs** link at the lower right of the RCGroups home page and scroll down to Torrey Pines Gulls.

<https://www.rcgroups.com/torrey-pines-gulls-672/>



Category	Thread / Thread Starter	Rating	Replies / Views	Last Post
Goal	GullWings – TPG Newsletters roccas, Apr 02, 2016		Replies: 6 Views: 642	he4gott Yesterday 03:03 PM
Alert	2017 Torrey Pines Gulls Fun Fly Schedule roccas, Jan 16, 2017		Replies: 2 Views: 561	he4gott Yesterday 02:59 PM
Discussion	2019 TPG Fun Fly Series Schedule MBaradachino, Dec 31, 2018		Replies: 3 Views: 102	he4gott Yesterday 02:56 PM
Discussion	TPG DLG 2019 Schedule jmcneil86043, Dec 28, 2018		Replies: 0 Views: 46	jmcneil86043 Dec 28, 2018 10:53 AM
Discussion	Wayback Machine roccas, Sep 16, 2016		Replies: 1 Views: 476	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:08 AM
Contest	August TPG Thermal Contest 8/13/17 Keith Finkestein, Aug 01, 2017		Replies: 1 Views: 430	MATIN Dec 13, 2018 12:08 AM
Item	Welcome TPG and others Mark Wood, Mar 03, 2010		Replies: 0 Views: 2,840	Mark Wood Mar 03, 2010 03:18 PM

If you haven't yet joined RCGroups, click on the **Sign Up** link at the upper right and follow the instructions.

Once you've navigated to the Torrey Pines Gulls Forum, you can subscribe to the Forum or to any of the individual threads within the Forum.

To subscribe to the Forum, click the **Forum Tools** link and select "Subscribe to This Forum" from the dropdown menu. Then choose from the notification dropdown menu. If you want to subscribe to a specific thread, click to open the thread, and click the **Thread Tools** link. Select "Subscribe to This Thread" from the dropdown menu. Again, choose from the notification dropdown menu.

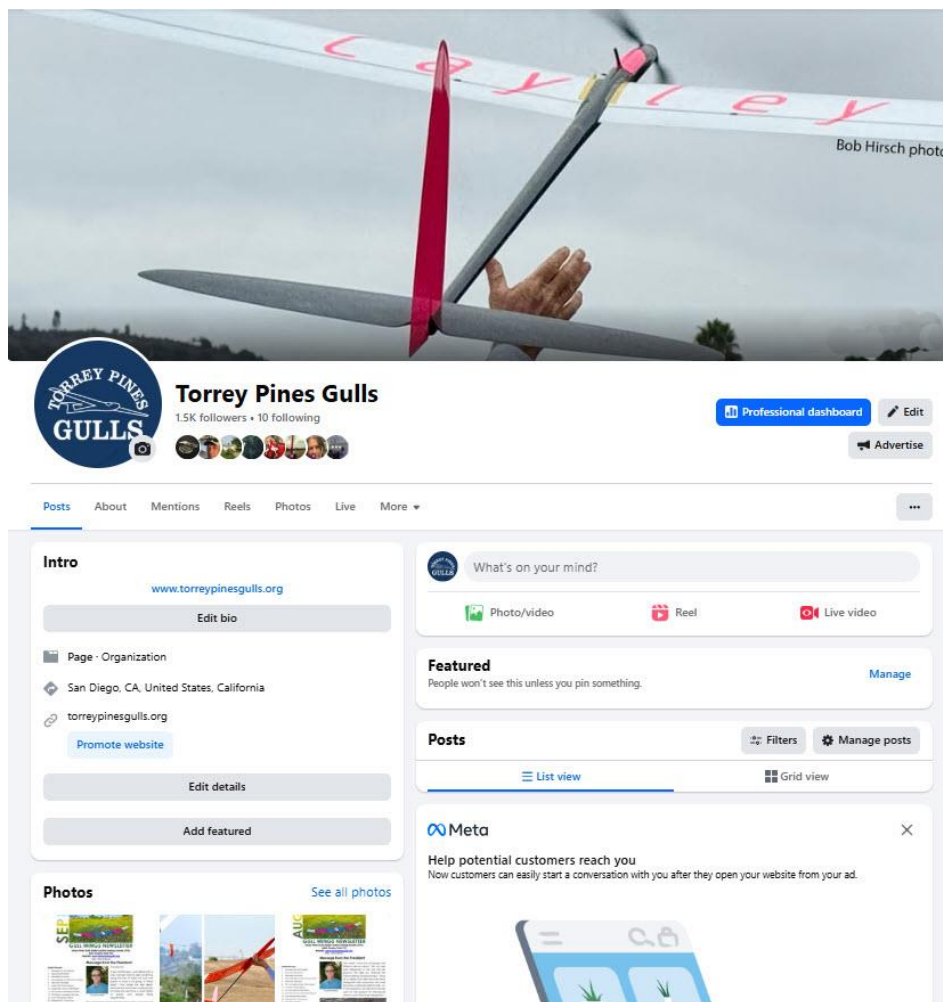
Unlike the old Yahoo Forum, RCGroups allows you to post photos and videos. By subscribing, you can keep up with the latest events, club activities and member postings.

## How We Connect (continued)

### Check out the TPG **facebook** Page

If you haven't had a chance yet, check out our TPG Facebook page by clicking the links below for new content posted by club members and friends.

<https://www.facebook.com/TorreyPinesGulls/>

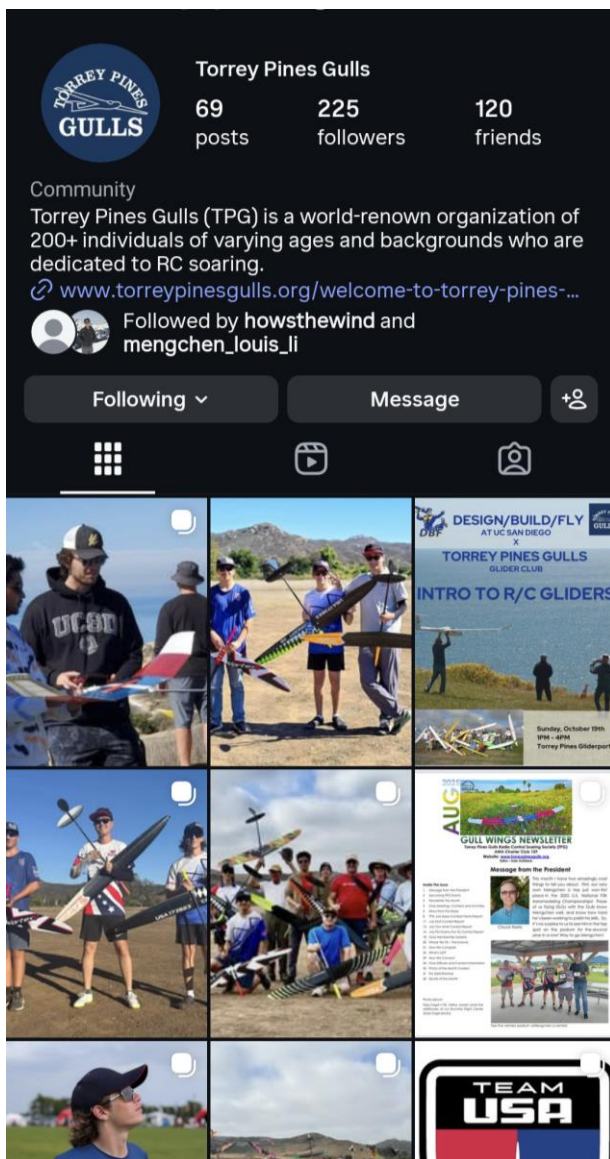


## How We Connect (continued)

TPG is on 

TPG's Media Coordinator, Mengchen Li, has created an Instagram account for the Torrey Pines Gulls. If you're already on Instagram, search for `torrey_pines_gulls` and click on follow. If you're not on Instagram, well, now's a great time to join!

Also, if you have any photos or videos of your RC soaring activities, contests, builds, fun flies, etc., send them along to Mengchen at [media@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:media@torreypinesgulls.org) and you might find your submittal on a TPG Instagram post.



## How We Connect (continued)

Join the Conversation:  **Discord**

Discord is a free website and app that you can download to your phone or computer that gives you access to the Torrey Pines Gulls group chat. This is an active discussion group with interesting conversations happening all the time. It's a great place to ask questions and learn from your fellow members. Event reminders and club news are posted to our Discord server so you can stay up to date with what's happening.

To get in:

1. Visit the Discord website and download the app to your computer or click the 'Open in Browser' link.
2. Or, search through your phone's app store for the Discord app and install it.
3. Create a free account inside the app or website.
4. Scan the QR code or click the link below it to join.



<http://www.discord.gg/vRdV6Fd9nP>

## Club Officers and Contact Information

President	Chuck Norris	<a href="mailto:president@torreypinesgulls.org">president@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Vice-President	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:vp@torreypinesgulls.org">vp@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Past President	Ian Cummings	
Secretary	Dale Gottdank	<a href="mailto:secretary@torreypinesgulls.org">secretary@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Treasurer	Don Lochhead	<a href="mailto:treasurer@torreypinesgulls.org">treasurer@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Communications Officer	Dale Gottdank	<a href="mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org">communications@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Thermal Coordinator	John McNeil	<a href="mailto:thermal@torreypinesgulls.org">thermal@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Slope Coordinator	Bret Locke	<a href="mailto:slope@torreypinesgulls.org">slope@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
DLG Coordinator	Justin Tolman	<a href="mailto:dlg@torreypinesgulls.org">dlg@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Membership Chair	Cliff Hunter	<a href="mailto:membership@torreypinesgulls.org">membership@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
IHLGF Coordinator	Chuck Norris	<a href="mailto:president@torreypinesgulls.org">president@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
LSF Coordinator	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:vp@torreypinesgulls.org">vp@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Webmaster	Jake Olefsky	<a href="mailto:tpg@foldnfly.com">tpg@foldnfly.com</a>
Media Coordinator	Mengchen Li	<a href="mailto:media@torreypinesgulls.org">media@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Historian	Gary Fogel	<a href="mailto:historian@torreypinesgulls.org">historian@torreypinesgulls.org</a>
Raffle Chairman		

### Executive Officers



Chuck Norris



Gary Fogel



Dale Gottdank



Don Lochhead



John McNeil



Bret Locke



Justin Tolman



Cliff Hunter

## Photo of the Month Contest

Each month club members may submit photos of an activity related to soaring and the newsletter editor will post a **WINNER**.

A Photo of the Year winner will be selected from among the monthly winners and will receive a prize (their photo will be used as the website and newsletter masthead AND will appear on the following year's club membership card); so **horizontal format photos are preferred**.

Email your photos (**JPG format and original high-resolution version, please**) to Dale Gottdank at [submit@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:submit@torreypinesgulls.org). Please provide your name, location of photo and photo description. Note: December photo of the month winner(s) will be included in the following year's Photo of the Year competition.



**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec 2025) Winner** – Steve Stanton launching his self-designed Cayley at a TPG F5J contest (Bob Hirsch photo)

## Photo of the Month Contest (continued)



Slope Combat Fiesta (Kevin Vu photo)



January Winner – Lone glider near the Black Mountain Gliderport (Kevin Vu photo)



### **TPG Classified Ads Policy**

Classified ads are free to TPG members for non-commercial purposes. Commercial customers should contact the editor. To submit an advertisement, send the information to [communications@torreypinesgulls.org](mailto:communications@torreypinesgulls.org). Ads must be submitted by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to appear in the next issue. All advertisements will remain in the newsletter for the month of issue and will be removed for the following issue. If you wish to advertise for another month, you will need to notify the editor or resubmit.



**Quote of the Month:**

*"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one."*

*~ Brad Paisley*



December Poway morning (Bob Hirsch photo)